

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 239901

67

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-04 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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OES/OFA - MR. SULLIVAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 239901

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, US, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIANS INFORMED OF PLANNING ON US FISHERIES
POLICY

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE CALLED IN CANADIAN
AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 7 TO INFORM GOC ABOUT US FISHERIES
POLICY DECISIONS PRIOR TO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. VINE
EXPLAINED THAT GENERAL AIM OF NEW POLICY WILL BE TO UNDER-
TAKE NEGOTIATING EFFORTS TO PROTECT US COASTAL FISHERIES
AND IS EXPECTED TO EFFECT A TRANSITION THROUGH NEGOTIATION
TO A 200-MILE COASTAL FISHERIES ZONE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 239901

2. VINE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- WE WERE DELIGHTED WITH PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S STATEMENT OPPOSING UNILATERAL EXTENSION OF FISHERIES ZONE.

-- WHILE THERE IS STRONG PRESSURE IN THE CONGRESS FOR UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF A 200-MILE FISHERIES ZONE, WE WOULD MUCH PREFER A MULTILATERAL SOLUTION AND WILL WORK TOWARD THAT END.

-- WE WILL BE INITIATING IMMEDIATELY A SERIES OF NEGOTIATIONS DESIGNED TO EFFECT A TRANSITION TO A 200-MILE

FISHERIES ZONE.

-- OUR THINKING WILL BE BASED ON THE CONSENSUS EMERGING FROM THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE AND IN ANTICIPATION OF A SUCCESSFUL AND TIMELY CONCLUSION OF THAT EFFORT.

-- THE US DOES NOT INTEND TO ABROGATE EXISTING AGREEMENTS, OR ARBITRARILY WITHDRAW FROM FISHERIES COMMISSIONS. HOWEVER, WE ARE DETERMINED TO ESTABLISH, BY AGREEMENT, A NEW SYSTEM OF CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT CONTROL OVER OUR COASTAL FISHERIES, AND PROVIDE THE MEANS EFFECTIVELY TO ENFORCE IT.

-- WE ARE AWARE THAT CANADA IS ALREADY PURSUING A SIMILAR COURSE OF ACTION. WE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT THAT OUR EFFORTS BE COORDINATED. TO THIS END WE SUGGEST CLOSE COORDINATION AND BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES FISHING OFF BOTH OUR COASTS. WE WOULD BOTH BE SOON NEGOTIATING WITH POLAND AND WOULD WISH TO CONSULT PRIOR TO THOSE TALKS AND WOULD PROPOSE SPECIFIC DATES TO THAT END IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AT A LATER STAGE, WE LOOK FORWARD TO ENTERING INTO A REVISED AGREEMENT WITH CANADA RE RECIPROCAL FISHING RIGHTS. WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT BILATERAL QUESTIONS NOT GET IN THE WAY OF OUR COORDINATION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES.

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PAGE 03 STATE 239901

3. IN RESPONSE, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT PLANNED US EFFORTS SEEM TO BE PARALLELING RECENT CANADIAN INITIATIVES. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ADVANCE NOTIFICATION AND SAID HE WOULD INFORM OTTAWA AND ON PERSONAL BASIS INDICATED THAT GOC WOULD BE PREPARED TO ENTER INTO BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH US WHENEVER US WAS READY.

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